

QUANTUM MONTE CARLO SIMULATION OF VIBRATIONAL FREQUENCY SHIFTS OF CO IN SOLID *para*-HYDROGEN

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Stimulated by Fajardo's remarkable study of the rovibrational spectra of CO isotopologues trapped in solid *para*-hydrogen,^a we have performed quantum Monte Carlo simulations to predict his observed vibrational frequency shifts and inertial rotational constants using 2-body potentials based on the best available models for the *p*H₂-*p*H₂^b and CO-*p*H₂^c potential energy functions. We started by fitting an analytic 'Morse/Long-Range' (MLR) function^d to the 1D "adiabatic hindered rotor" version of Hinde's 5D *p*H₂-*p*H₂ potential developed by Faruk *et al.*^e We then modified it to take account of many-body effects by scaling it until it yielded the correct equilibrium lattice parameters for the *fcc* and *hcp* structures of pure solid *para*-hydrogen. A CO molecule was then placed at different interstitial or substitution sites in large equilibrated *fcc* or *hcp* *para*-hydrogen lattices, and the structural and dynamical behaviors of the micro-solvation environment around CO were simulated with a PIMC algorithm using a 2D effective *p*H₂-CO potential based on the 5D H₂-CO potential energy surface recently reported by Li *et al.*,^f with a lattice sum of values of the 2D CO vibrational difference potential being used to predict the vibrational frequency shift. The effective rotational constants B_{eff} for CO in different solid *para*-hydrogen structures were also calculated and compared with the experimental observations and with predicted B_{eff} values for CO in large-sized *para*-hydrogen-CO clusters.^g

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